

Attorney's Docket No. 5576-131

PATENT

SADH  
#2A  
1-4-01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Maeda et al.  
Filed: ~~Concurrently Herewith~~ 8.3.00  
For: HYDROGEN ABSORBING ALLOY AND  
NICKEL-METAL HYDRIDE RECHARGEABLE BATTERY

August 3, 2000

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In The Claims:

1. (Amended) A hydrogen absorbing alloy having a  $\text{CaCu}_5$  type crystal structure in its principal phase, comprising La in [the range] an amount of 24 to 33% by weight in the alloy, and Mg or Ca in [the range] an amount of 0.1 to 1.0% by weight in the alloy.
4. (Amended) A hydrogen absorbing alloy according to claim 1, further comprising [wherein the] Co [content is] in an amount of 6 to 9% by weight, and having an [the] atomic ratio B/A [is] of 5.0 to 5.25, wherein A represents a rare earth element including La, and B represents a rare earth element, transition metal or Al.

In claim 5, line 2, please insert -- elements -- before "selected".

In claim 7, lines 1 and 2, please delete "any one of claims 1 to 4" and insert therefor -- claim 1 --.

Cancel claims 8, 9, 10, and 11.